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THE
Thurrock Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE
Chief Sanitary Inspector
For the Year 1954

GRAYS.
HIGGINS LTD., PRINTING CONTRACTORS
1955.

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URBAN DISTRICT OF THURROCK

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health :

W. T. G. BOUL, M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., F.Z.S.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

L. CULLISS (1, 2, 3)

Officer under Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

Inspector under Shops Act.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector :

H. A. GOSLING (1, 2, 3)

Sanitary Inspectors :

R. A. BULL (1, 2, 3) J. H. ASH (1, 2)

F. H. MUMMERY (1, 2) (resigned Dec., 1954)

1. Indicates Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute.
2. Certificate, Inspection of Meat and other Foods.
3. Certificate, Smoke Inspection.

Chief Clerk—Sanitary Inspectors' Department :

J. E. BOLTON

Clerical Assistants :

Mrs. D. SAYERS Mrs. J. WHITNEY (Resigned Dec., 1954)

Mrs. E. BROWN Mrs. B. DENHAM

Mortuary Attendant :

F. J. COSBY

Pest Operative :

C. L. WILKINSON

THURROCK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

34 CRESTHILL AVENUE,

GRAYS, ESSEX.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
THURROCK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1954, and my thirtieth Annual Report for the district as a whole.

I am very much indebted to the whole of the members of the staff of the Public Health Department and should wish to place on record, for the information of the Council, my appreciation of the work they have carried out during the year under review. I should also like to place on record my gratitude for the continued support of members of the Council, and Officials of other Departments.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

W. T. G. BOUL,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Land Area (in acres) approx. ...	...	...	41,000
Estimated Resident Population	...	...	97,080
Product of Id. Rate	...	...	£2,483 7s. 1d.
No. of Separately Rated Dwelling Houses or Flats	...	...	27,079
No. of Shops with accommodation	...	...	488

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	866	883	1749
Illegitimate	34	42	76
			<u>1825</u>

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population ... 18.8

Deaths.	M.	F.	Total
	423	215	638
Death Rate per 1000 estimated resident population	...	...	6.6
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age	...	...	23.01
Deaths from Suicide	...	...	10
Deaths from Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	10
Deaths from other accidents	...	...	20

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Routine examination of milk, water and ice-cream supplies were carried out by the Public Health Laboratories, Balmoral Avenue, Southend-on-Sea.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (Section 47).

No action was taken during the year under the above Act.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are 619 cesspools, 668 pail closets in the area.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following report has been furnished to me by the Chief Sanitary Inspector in accordance with Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

	Visits paid
Dwelling Houses	3646
Housing Survey	35
Housing Act, 1936 (Overcrowding) ...	25
Infectious Disease	285
Food Poisoning	2
Caravans	144
Factories (Mechanical)	90
Factories (Non-Mechanical)	12
Verminous Premises	2
Outworkers	65
Workplaces	2
Bakehouses	108
Dairies and Milkshops	23
Fish Shops	10
Butchers' Shops	64
Common Lodging Houses	4
Atmospheric Pollution (including Smoke Abatement)	56
Refuse Tips and Accumulations	208
Meat Inspection	417
Slaughterhouses	9
Ice Cream Premises	38
Stables and Pig Styes	13
Samples—Milk	538
Samples—Ice Cream	160
Samples—Water	10
Samples—Swimming Baths	10
Samples—Effluent	2
Rat Suppression	2872
Food Preparation Premises	393
Dustbins	939
Fairgrounds	2
Food Sampling	497
Food Inspection	158
Food Hawkers	5
Shops Acts—Inspections	145

				Visits paid
Food Vehicles	..	...	...	43
Old Metal Dealers	...	...	...	1
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	22
Hackney Carriages	...	...	...	21
Heating Appliances (Fireguards Regulations)				9
Clearance Areas	...	...	...	17
Schools	...	...	...	8
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	1524

DAIRIES AND MILK SHOPS.

There are within the area 12 registered dairies as defined by the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, and 72 licensed persons who retail milk in the sealed receptacles in which it is received at the premises. In addition to the foregoing, two outside firms carry on a vehicular trade within the district.

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949.

Number of persons licensed to sell :—

(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	19
(b) Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)		...	4
(c) Pasteurised Milk	...	...	25
(d) Sterilized Milk	...	...	78

Pasteurising Plants.

There are two pasteurising plants in the district, with capacity of 1,500 gallons per hour in one case and one of 200 gallons per hour.

The larger plant is of the H.T.S.T. type, and the remaining one of the "Holder" type.

Both of the above plants have worked satisfactorily throughout the year.

MILK SAMPLES.

Tuberculin Tested.

37 samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk were taken, of which 1 was shown to be unsatisfactory, giving a percentage figure of 2.7% unsatisfactory and 97.3% satisfactory.

The unsatisfactory sample was taken from a retailer in the district and was produced by a farm in the area. Further samples have proved satisfactory.

Pasteurised.

316 samples of pasteurised milk were taken, 5 of which were unsatisfactory and 17 tests void. Disregarding the void samples, the percentage of unsatisfactory samples was 1.7%.

The unsatisfactory samples were shown to have failed the Methylene Blue Test, one of these was produced inside the area and the other four outside. Further samples were taken from these producers and were all satisfactory. It should be noted that all samples satisfied the Phosphatase Test.

Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised).

84 samples of T.T. Pasteurised milk were taken, 3 samples were void and all the remainder satisfactory.

Sterilised.

9 samples of sterilised milk were taken, all of which were shown to be satisfactory.

With regard to all the foregoing milk samples, all the unsatisfactory samples were sporadic in character and there was no case of a producer constantly producing an unsatisfactory milk.

Milk—Biological Tests. Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 68.

64 samples were taken for submission to the biological test with a view to determining the presence or otherwise of tubercle bacilli.

2 samples were shown to be positive, and in this connection the Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was immediately informed.

In view of the fact that the milk from these farms was already being sent for pasteurisation before sale to the public, no further action by me was necessary.

WATER.

(a) 11 samples of water were taken during the year from the South Essex Waterworks Company's mains and submitted for bacteriological examination.

All of these samples were shown to be satisfactory.

One sample was also taken for chemical examination. The hardness in this case was as follows:

Total hardness 230 parts per million (175 temporary and 55 permanent).

(b) WATER—STATISTICS.

1. The water supplies of the area have been satisfactory in quality and quantity during the year.
2. There is no domestic water supply in the area liable to plumbosolvent action.

(a) Number of dwelling-houses supplied from public water mains direct to the houses					27,503
Number of population so served					96,847
(b) Number of houses supplied from public water mains by means of standpipes					21
Estimated population so served					79
(c) Number of houses served by wells or stored rainwater					43
Estimated population so served					154

MEAT INSPECTION.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned at Slaughterhouses.

			Other Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	...	...	251	288	90	902	2756
Number inspected	...	...	251	288	90	902	2756
All diseases, except Tuberculosis.							
Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	—	1	—	8	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	37	53	—	54	128
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	...	...	14.8	18.7	—	6.8	4.7
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.							
Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	—	3	1	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	18	58	—	—	41
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	...	...	7.2	21.2	1.1	—	1.5

Slaughterhouses.

There are 8 operative slaughterhouses in the district all of which are the subject of annual license. In one instance an application for a licence to use premises as a slaughterhouse was refused by the Council but their decision was reversed on appeal.

Knacker's Yards.

There is only one knacker's yard in the Council's area, and it is visited periodically with a view to ascertaining any contravention of the Regulations. In no case were the premises found to be in use and I am satisfied that no slaughtering took place during the year.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954.

The register of all licensed slaughtermen, pursuant to Section 3 (i) of the Act of 1933 is kept, and the number so licensed is 25.

Unsound Food Surrendered.

Meat	1257 lbs.	Dried fruit	3 boxes
Tinned meat	577 tins	Sausages	74½ lbs.
Fruit	3598 tins	Rabbits	30 lbs.
Soup	135 tins	Frozen egg	1 tin
Vegetables	1642 tins	Frozen egg	10 lbs.
Fish	230 tins	Cocoa	45 lbs.
Milk	1021 tins	Dried peas	24 lbs.
Milk (dried)	21 tins	Dried cabbage	2¾ lbs.
Milk	21 lbs.	Cakes	105
Cream	75 tins	Beverages	2 tins
Ham	26 tins	Kidneys	93 lbs.
Preserves	112 tins	Liver	12 lbs.
Cooking fat	5 lbs.	Confectionery	1 pkt.
Margarine	7½ lbs.	Confectionery	33 lbs.
Offal	1067 lbs.	Cereals	1 tin
Jelly	1 pkt.	Cereals	1 lb.
Cheese	16 pkts.	Crab	28 lbs.
Biscuits	1 tin	Custard Powder	2 tins
Biscuits	64 pkts.		

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD.

Those surrendered or condemned foods required by Circular to be returned by trade channels were so dealt with. Other foods were either used for pig food or buried on the Council's refuse disposal site as their condition warranted.

ICE-CREAM SAMPLES.

151 samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination, with the following results:—

<i>Ministry of Health's Provisional Grade</i>				Number of Samples
Grade I	...	...	...	102
Grade II	...	...	...	32
Grade III	...	...	...	12
Grade IV	...	...	...	5

The standard of ice-cream sold within the Area throughout the year is set out below:—

Producer	Total Samples therefrom	Min. of Health's Provisional Grades				Quality
		I	II	III	IV	
A.	25	18	6	—	I	Satisfactory
B.	24	20	I	3	—	"
C.	20	15	5	—	—	"
D.	5	3	I	I	—	"
E.	37	26	8	3	—	"
F.	12	8	2	2	—	"
G.	8	3	5	—	—	"
H.	7	I	2	I	3	Unsatisfactory
I.	I	I	—	—	—	Satisfactory
J.	2	2	—	—	—	"
K.	5	3	I	I	—	"
L.	4	I	—	2	I	Unsatisfactory
M.	I	I	—	—	—	Satisfactory
TOTALS	151	102	31	13	5	

Producers B. and K. are situated within the Urban District. The remaining producers manufacture outside the area but retail their supplies within.

An endeavour has been made to obtain a sufficient number of samples so as to arrive at a reasonable conclusion as to their general grade. This, as may be seen, is sometimes impossible owing to the fact that production and subsequent sale are sporadic and infrequent.

Of the total of 151 samples taken, 29 were from Thurrock producers, and fell within the following categories:—

<i>Ministry of Health's Provisional Grade</i>				Number of Samples
Grade I	...	...	...	23
Grade II	...	...	...	2
Grade III	...	...	...	4

Percentage of Grade I samples...	...	79.3%
„ „ Grades I and II samples	...	86.2%
„ „ Grade III samples	...	13.8%
„ „ „ IV „	...	Nil

FOOD HANDLING BYE-LAWS.

Periodic visits are made to all food preparation premises in the district, including restaurants, hotels, works and school canteens, and constructive suggestions made. In certain cases, more definite instructions were given when breaches of the byelaws were thought to have occurred.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Section 14.

Records show that there are 197 premises registered for the manufacture or sale of ice-cream and 113 premises registered for the manufacture or sale of sausages, etc.

FOOD PREMISES.

There are, in the Urban District, the following premises used for the sale of food as indicated :

Hotels and Licensed Premises	...	...	54
Cafes and refreshment houses	...	...	44
Shops: Fruit and vegetables	...	...	46
Grocery and provisions	...	...	137
Sugar confectionery	...	...	69
Bakers and flour confectionery	...	...	29
Butchers shops	...	...	55
Fried fish shops	}	...	21
Wet and dry fish shops			

SHOPS ACTS, 1950.

The once prevalent offence of serving after hours is now considerably less frequent but from inspections made it is obvious that some employers are not as mindful as they might be in regard to the keeping of those statutory forms which deal with the hours and conditions associated with the employment of young persons.

145 inspections of shops in the area were made to ensure that shopkeepers were, in fact, keeping to the provision of the Act.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Number of houses found to be infested ... 6

This figure does not include houses on the Council's estates which are supervised by the Council's Housing Department.

(a) The methods employed for freeing infested houses from vermin are as follows :—

The spraying of all rooms and effects with a vermicide containing D.D.T.

(b) The following methods are employed to ensure the belongings of prospective tenants of Council houses are free from vermin :—

The belongings of prospective tenants are inspected by members of the Estates Department. If vermin are present, the tenant is not accepted until conditions have been remedied. The tenant is expected to disinfest the premises, but this can be carried out by the Local Authority at a charge of 7/6 per room.

(c) The disinfestation of private houses is carried out by the owners or occupiers under the supervision of the Local Authority. Facilities are offered by the Public Health Department whereby such disinfestation is carried out by them, a charge being made on the basis outlined above.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954.

This Act came into force in September of this year and very little use seems to have been made of it by the public. During the period under review the statistics are as follows :—

No. of applications for Certificates of Disrepair	...	12
" " " " " " " granted	...	5
" " " " " " " refused	...	7
" " " " " " " revocation of Certificates	...	Nil
" " " " " " " granted	...	Nil
" " " " " " " refused	...	Nil

SECTION D.

I. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES.

(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 1063

(b) Number of inspections and re-inspections made for that purpose 3646

(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above, which were inspected and reported under Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925)...	15
(b)	Number of inspections and re-inspections made for that purpose	35
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be unfit for human habitation, and not capable at a reasonable expense of being rendered fit	8
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	689
2.	REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES. Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority and their officers	468
3.	ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.	
(A)	<i>Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—</i>	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... ..	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	Nil
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served under the Council's Byelaws ...	16
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit as a result thereof (including those outstanding from 1952)...	9
(B)	<i>Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.</i>	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	255
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices (including those outstanding from 1952) :—	
(a)	By Owners	255
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	2
(C)	<i>Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.</i>	
(1)	Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	5

(2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
(3) Number of houses in respect of which undertakings not to use for human habitation were accepted ...	3
(4) Number of houses in respect of which undertakings to render fit were accepted	Nil
(5) Number of houses so rendered fit	Nil
(D) <i>Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.</i>	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	Nil

LIST OF WORKS EXECUTED.

ROOMS :

Dampness remedied	75
Stripped, cleansed and redecorated	8
Plaster repaired	164
Floors repaired	71
Windows repaired or renewed	101
Stoves repaired or renewed	50
Doors, locks, &c., repaired or renewed	27
Vermin disinfested	6

STAIRCASES :

Stripped and redecorated	1
Handrails fixed	11
Repaired	7

SANITARY FITMENTS :

New sinks, &c.	17
Coppers provided or repaired	5
W.C.'s and pail closets repaired	117
New pedestals provided	3
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	29
Soil or vent pipes repaired or renewed	6
Pail closets to W.C.'s	1

DRAINS :

Unstopped or repaired	54
Gullies repaired or renewed	9
Inspection Chambers repaired or inserted	8

WATER SUPPLIES AND FITTINGS:

Roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	121
Gutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	72
Walls repaired or renewed	...	...	15
Yards paved or repaired	...	...	3
Dustbins provided	...	...	188
Miscellaneous	...	...	6
Accumulations removed	...	...	5

CLEARANCE AREAS.

Section 25. Housing Act, 1936.

Thirty-five houses in St. Chad's Road, Tilbury, were confirmed by the Minister to be dealt with as three separate clearance areas. By the end of the year a large portion of the first area's population had been re-housed and the actual clearance of this area was imminent.

OVERCROWDING.

During the year 25 investigations showed that 17 cases of overcrowding occurred. These were referred to the Estates Department. Additional cases of overcrowding were discovered by the Housing Department when investigations connected with the "Points" scheme were made. The Housing Committee's standard of overcrowding is higher than the statutory one.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED.

During the year, 912 complaints were received from residents within the Urban District. Every complaint was dealt with as soon as possible and any action taken which was deemed necessary.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1948.

Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	21	12	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) above in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority ...	281	90	8	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	302	102	8	Nil

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)... ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperatures (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—					
(a) Insufficient ...	6	5	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	9	8	—	4	—

FACTORIES.

The discrepancy of one in the foregoing table refers to a notice outstanding at the end of the year.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year 15 observations were made in respect of the discharge of black smoke. The firms in question were approached informally and in all cases improvements were effected. One particular firm was productive of considerable nuisance but rather fortunately the process was found to be unremunerative and the works closed.

Consequent upon previous arrangements made for the setting up of deposit gauges, these have been kept in operation throughout the year and I append the results below:—

Month	Tons per square mile		Mg. per 100 sq. Cm.	
	Cole & Lecquire's Jetty	Ward Avenue Allotments	Sulphur	Peroxide
January	37.85	23.62	2.43	
February	32.24	30.80	1.80	
March	33.27	29.63	1.80	
April	20.63	26.10	1.33	
May	35.90	25.44	1.01	
June	33.02	33.77	0.95	
July	49.73	40.02	0.59	
August	41.83	36.35	1.08	
September	36.77	47.30	1.31	
October	47.33	47.51	1.51	
November	64.25	42.03	1.67	
December	—	32.65	2.75	

It should be appreciated that so far as these gauges are concerned the result is not limited to cement dust but includes grit and gritty particles from domestic and any other source.

HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT.

During the year, 9 visits were made to premises dealing with the sale of Heating Appliances and in no case was it found necessary to take action under the Regulations.

OUTWORK.

A register of outworkers resident in the district is kept, the number so registered being 54.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The Pest Operative deals with all complaints regarding rodent infestation. In this connection, private dwelling houses are treated without charge but trade premises are charged on a basis of total cost plus Establishment Charges. In addition the Pest Operative carries out monthly treatments at the Council's Sewage Works and Refuse Tips. The treatment of sewers is undertaken by the Surveyor's Department.

I append below the statistics in relation to the work of the Pest Operative:—

Visits to Private Dwelling-houses	...	...	2308
Visits to Trade Premises	...	...	226
Refuse Tips and Sewage Works	...	...	124

FOOD AND DRUGS REPORT.

The following samples of food and drugs were taken during the year :—

Article	Number of Formal Samples	Number of Informal Samples	Genuine	Non-Genuine
Sweets	5	21	24	2
Milk	45	—	44	1
Meat pies	6	—	6	—
Milk pudding (macaroni)	—	1	1	—
Pie Filling—lemon flavour	1	1	2	—
Sausages	7	2	7	2
Pork brawn	1	—	1	—
Biscuits	—	1	1	—
Glycerine	1	—	1	—
Flour	—	3	3	—
Soup	1	5	5	1
Sugar confectionery	1	1	2	—
Tinned meat	—	11	10	1
Fats	1	8	8	1
Patent medicines	1	24	23	2
Tinned Milk	—	7	6	1
Mixed cut peel	—	2	1	1
Fruit	—	3	2	1
Preserves	1	17	18	—
Cream	—	1	1	—
Cereals	—	4	4	—
Butter	—	1	1	—
Table jellies	—	2	1	1
Soft drinks	—	12	10	2
Lemon Essence	—	1	1	—
Spices	—	10	10	—
Custard powder	—	1	1	—
Liver puree	—	1	1	—
Gravy browning	—	1	1	—

Article	Number of Formal Samples	Number of Informal Samples	Genuine	Non-Genuine
Sandwich spread	—	1	—	1
Margarine	—	6	6	—
Jellied eels	—	1	—	1
Chicklettes	—	1	1	—
Sauce	—	4	4	—
Fish paste	—	2	2	—
Salad cream	—	1	1	—
Dried fruit	—	3	3	—
Lemonade powder	—	1	1	—
Ground almonds	—	1	1	—
Tea	—	1	1	—
Pickles	—	1	—	1
Roast peanuts	—	1	1	—
Desiccated coconut	—	1	1	—
Flour confectionery	—	6	5	1
Meat paste	—	1	1	—
Ice cream	—	1	1	—
Tinned vegetables	—	3	3	—
Icing sugar	—	1	—	1
Foie gras paste with truffles	—	1	—	1
	71	179	228	22

NON-GENUINE SAMPLES.

- (a) The non-genuine samples of Orange Flavoured Cordial, Sandwich Spread, Stuffed Pork Roll, Artillery Pickle, Easy Icing Sugar and Foie Gras Paste with Truffles were shown to be incorrectly labelled. After correspondence with the manufacturers the labels were amended.
- (b) A sample of "Cream of Mushroom Soup" was shown to be incorrect when, on preparation, it was stated to contain less fat than the minimum standard. The manufacturers were contacted and agreed to amend the label to read "Mushroom Soup."
- (c) A sample of Pork Sausages was shown to be 17% deficient in meat content. The manufacturers were sent a warning letter.
- (d) Consequent upon a circular from the Ministry of Food concerning prohibited preservatives, a sample of oranges was taken and the Public Analyst stated that the sample contained 37 parts per million Thiourea on the skin. The Ministry of Food was informed of this result.
- (e) A sample of Table Jelly was stated by the Analyst to have failed the setting test and that it was probably old stock. The manufacturers were contacted and withdrew the remaining stock from sale.
- (f) The Public Analyst stated that a sample of Iodised Throat Tablets was 90% deficient in Phenol and 41% in Iodine. He stated that these tablets were probably old stock. This proved to be the case and they were withdrawn from sale.
- (g) A sample of Fruit Fizzers was shown to be deficient in carbon dioxide. The manufacturers agreed to amend the product and stated that the sample was probably of old stock.
- (h) A sample of Pork Sausages was shown to be 8% deficient in meat. The manufacturers were warned and agreed to amend the product.
- (i) A sample of Jellied Eels was stated by the Analyst to be decomposed on arrival for examination. This was probably due to a delay in the delivery of the sample. No action was taken.
- (j) A sample of milk was shown to be 5% deficient in fat, this was due to the fact that the sample was taken from a pipe line before being fully mixed. No action was taken.
- (k) A sample of Butterscotch Flavour was stated by the Analyst to be non-genuine on two counts (a) The product was improperly labelled (b) There was no butter content. The manufacturers were contacted and after considerable discussion agreed to amend the product and the label to "Butterscotch Rolls."

(l) The Public Analyst stated that a sample of Beef Dripping was non-genuine in that it contained more than the maximum limit of free fatty acids. The manufacturer, a local trader, was interviewed and remedial suggestions regarding the manufacture of the product were made.

(m) A sample of Skimmed Condensed Milk was stated by the Analyst to have an unpleasant odour on opening the tin. The vendor was contacted and withdrew the remaining stock from sale.

(n) A sample of Cake Marzipan was shown to contain 3.1% free fatty acids more than the maximum allowed. The stock was inspected and was withdrawn from sale by the manufacturers.

(o) A sample of Mixed Cut Peel was shown to contain 5% less sugar than the minimum amount allowed. The stock was withdrawn by the manufacturers, who gave an assurance that future productions would be satisfactory.

(p) A sample of Paregoric Tablets was stated by the Analyst to contain no morphine and were thus not Paregoric Tablets. The manufacturers, when contacted, agreed with the Analyst and took immediate steps to remove the word "Paregoric" from all existing and future labels.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Essex County Council Act, 1933.

Section 109.

A case was taken under the above Act in connection with the placing of a caravan within the Urban District without the prior consent of the Council. The defendant was fined a total of £18 10s. 0d.

Proceedings were instituted in a second case similar to the above. The defendant, however, removed to other accommodation in the month allowed to him by the Court.

Essex County Council Act, 1952.

Section 105.

Proceedings were instituted under the above Act in regard to the opening of food premises without prior notification. The defendant was given a conditional discharge on payment of £2 2s. 0d. costs.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

DISEASES		Notified	Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	150	3	—
Dysentery	...	4	2	—
Pneumonia	...	52	11	—
Infective Hepatitis	...	55	10	—
Measles	...	646	3	—
Whooping Cough	...	118	—	—
Erysipelas	...	6	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	38	32	—
Food Poisoning	...	19	3	—
Mumps	...	6	—	—
German Measles	..	2	—	—
Tubercular Meningitis	...	5	5	I
Meningitis	...	4	4	—
Malaria	...	2	I	—
Para-Typhoid Fever	...	I	I	—

AGE GROUPS.

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DISEASE	Under 1 year	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	15-20 yrs.	20-35 yrs.	35-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 yrs. up.	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	3	6	11	...	15	103	11	...	1	...	...	...	150
Infective Hepatitis ...	...	...	...	1	2	33	10	1	2	3	3	...	55
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	31	4	...	...	38
Pneumonia ...	1	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	3	1	5	1	16
Dysentery ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	4
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	2	6
Whooping Cough ...	14	4	14	17	13	54	1	...	1	...	...	...	118
Measles ...	12	59	75	82	75	339	2	...	1	1	...	...	646
Food Poisoning ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	3	10	2	2	...	19
Meningitis ...	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Mumps ...	...	2	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	6
German Measles ...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tubercular Meningitis ...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	5
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Malaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
Para-Typhoid Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

No action was taken under the above headings.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY.

Age periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp'ry		Respiratory		Non-Resp'ry	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...
1- 5 years	...	1	3	4	...	...	...	...
5-15 „	4	7	6	1	...	...	...	...
15-25 „	15	27	3	...	...	...	...	...
25-35 „	37	38	5	1	...	1	...	...
35-45 „	12	9	...	1	1	2	...	...
45-55 „	14	3	...	...	1	...	...	...
55-65 „	10	4	...	...	3	...	...	...
65 „ } upwards }	3	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Totals	95	91	20	7	5	3	1	...

